THE AMERICAN FUR TRADE OF THE FAR WEST. A History of the Pioneer Trading Posts and Early Fur Companies of the Missouri Valley and the Rocky Mountains, and of the Overland Commerce with Santa Fe. With Maps and Hustrations. By Hiram Martin Chittenden. Three volumes. Octavo, pp. xxiv, 482. vill, 483-892, 893-1903. Francis P. Harper.

These three substantial volumes give a more minute, comprehensive and well ordered account than has ever been attempted before of one of the most influential factors in the exploration

THE ART OF LIFE. By R. de Maulde la Clavière.

Translated by George Herbert Ely. 12me, pp.
yili, 342. G. P. Putnam's Sons. and development of the Far West. The traders and trappers engaged in the fur trade were the real pathfinders, and not those later official expiorers whom posterity so recognizes, says Captain Chittenden, and his work goes far to uphold the justice of his contention. It is a book of great research in widely scattered sources, for much of the published material concerning original documents have never been made pub-Bc. Captain Chittenden has utilized them all with discrimination and judgment. His account of the larger forces that moulded events in the Far West, as well as of the details of various trading companies and ventures, is full and complete, leaving little apparently to be said

The fur trade, as late as sixty years ago, was almost the only business transacted west of the Mississippi River. St. Louis was, and still is, its centre, and its supremacy, which Captain Chittenden points out as a fact of which few of its citizens are cognizant, is even greater to-day than it was then. The Indian was the most important single factor in the fur trade. The government's first method of dealing with him was through a system of trading in "factories," or trading houses. But the government, as Captain Chittenden puts it, had not the courage of its convictions, and, instead of keeping the field for itself, granted rights to private individuals to trade with the Indians, dooming Its own system at once to destruction and opening the way for the infamies that have resulted in the "Century of Dishonor," Private enterprise planted the heart of the wilderness with "forts"—in 1843 there were in the country tributary to St. Louis no fewer than 150 of these trading posts. The trappers were of three nationalities-American, French and Spanish. The French were especially important in the early fur trade-at least four-fifths of the lower grades of employes were of this nationality. They were sharply contrasted in character with

The voyageur had a light and buoyant vein in his nature, which was totally wanting in the American. He was always singing at his work, laughing and joking with his companions, and cheerful and happy in his manner. His willingness to tell, his complacent endurance of the most predigious labors, and his long acquiescence in the most scantly provision for food and shelter made him the cheerful slave of the fur trade. It would have been impossible to have extorted similar service from an American. As a general thing, his field of work was more upon the water than upon the land. It was he who cordelled the keelbeat up the long course of the Missouri and performed the arduous labors connected with the navigation of that most stubborn stream. . The voyageur was beyond comparison the most interesting and picturesque personality in the trapping fraternity—mild in disposition, mercurial in temper, obedient, willing and contented, ever ready to undergo the most severe hardships, and altogether a most useful and indispensable character in the business of the fur trade.

The American lacked this vivacious and happy may be, of a serene philosophy. temperament and was less compliant under authority. But in dangerous emergencies, in arduous undertakings, he was the superior.

The distinctively American development of the fur trade was the work of John Jacob Astor, though the great English corporations, the Hudson Bay Company and the Northwest Company, the Mackinaw Company, and a number of St. Louis traders, had already been exploiting American soil. The Louisiana Purchase at a stroke vastly increased the possibilities open to Americans in the trade. In 1808 Astor incorporated the American Fur Company, and elabcrated plans, that had the approval of the government, for a settlement near the mouth of the Columbia, from which trade was to be prosecuted in all directions. The exciting story and disastrous end of the Asteria project have been told by Washington Irving-the historical ac-Chittenden to be on a level with its merit to cause him "growing astonishment" to find with what detail Irving had worked out his theme, and with what judicial fairness he had passed "judgment upon actors and events," and his history of Captain Bonneville is equally remarkable for its accuracy of detail and comprehensive treatment. When the English Captain Black landed and took possession of the American settlement, he had done, says the historian, what no British sailor had ever done before-"in taking possession of this port he had saved an empire to his country." It is no flight of fancy to say that if Mr. Astor's for trading enterprise at Astoria had succeeded, the course of empire on the American continent would have been

With the valley of the Columbia and the neighboring shores of the Pacific occupied by American citizens instead of British subjects during the period of controversy over the Oregon question, no part of the Pacific Coast line would now belong to Great Britain.

In 1822 another corporation was formed in St. Louis for Western fur trapping, the Rocky Mountain Fur Company, which, in its brief existence of twelve years, did a great work in opening to the knowledge of Eastern civilization one of the richest fur sections of the West and performing daring explorations full of romantic adventure. Its men made known the country around the sources of the Platte and Yellowstone and around the Great Salt Lake; this lake they discovered, and they were the first, after one lone adventurer, Colter, to enter the Yellowstone wonderland; the first to cross the Sierras and the deserts of Utah and Nevada, and the first to travel by land up the Pacific Coast from San Francisco to the Columbia, Mr. Astor's American Fur Company-that "fiction intended to broaden and facilitate his operations"-made few brilliant strokes of policy, but rather made sure and well fortified steps in progress, leaving to its more adventurous rivals the breaking of ground in new and dangerous territory. It was the great power of the day in the West; it had no allies; it was the counterpart of the present day "octupus," knowing and practising all the familiar devices of the lobby and of the free pass. It knew, too, the advantage of promoting scientific enterprise that would redound to its credit, but it was to the average American the personification of monopoly, and retired, when its work was done, thoroughly hated by many

Captain Chittenden's second volume deals with the Santa Fé trade, which included much more than the furs of the Northwest. There was a flourishing "commerce of the prairies" between the overthrow of Spanish power in Mexico and the beginning of the Mexican War, some twentytwo years. The second volume is also devoted to chronicling contemporary events and notable incidents and characters connected with the fur trade prior to the War of 1812, with its unsettling of the Missouri commerce, and the Yellowstone expedition sent out by the government in 1819, from which great things were expected and nothing but disaster realized. This was followed six years later by another, carried on with much more skill, and accomplishing satisfactory results. There are interesting accounts of some of the adventurers of fur trading days and their exciting experiences; and the book closes with a detailed account of the country of the Far West, the flora, fauna and native tribes. The third volume is an appendix, reproducing a number

of original documents, and containing a map, with posts and trails. All in all, the execution of Captain Chittenden's work makes it a valuable contribution to the phase of American history, of which it treats. It has the great additional contribution to the phase of American history, of which it treats. It has the great additional contribution to the phase of American history, of which it treats. It has the great additional contribution to the phase of American history, of which it treats. It has the great additional contribution to the phase of American history, of which it treats. It has the great additional contribution to the phase of American history, of which it treats. THE AMERICAN HUNTER, of original documents, and containing a map, with posts and trails. All in all, the execution vantage, moreover, of being an extremely read-

able and entertaining one.

WOMEN AND LIFE.

A FRENCH PHILOSOPHER'S IDEALISTIC DISCUSSION

"The art of life," says M. de Maulde la Clavière, "is the art of drinking for ourselves at the inexhaustible fount of beauty." His philosophy is a gentle and thoughtful one, urging the sweetening of existence, the throwing off of strain and stress. The right ordering of the emotions is the way through which he believes we must reach the goal, and the duty of exercising it this subject is difficult of access, and many falls to women. Much of his discourse is, there fore, directed to an examination of the influence of women on modern life. Woman is formed by man-by education, then as transformed and perfected by her husband. Women are artists in their love of nature, much as the Greeks were, and as St. Francis of Assisl was. We quote a characteristic passage of M. de Maulde la Clavière on the saint's enthusiasm for a universal love:

How great an artist, too, was St. Francis of Assisi? He never said within himself that he was accomplishing a work of art, but to him, in his simple, unchecked transports of enthusiasm, all things were love. He could have discerned in a stone, as with Röntgen's rays, a spark of life. "Fire and hail, snow and vapours, praise ye the Lord," said the Psaimist. And St. Francis also poured out his whole heart in soing, with his sisters the flowers and the animals his brothers; every page of his life speaks of his relations with the lambs and the birds. He discoursed to the swallows that flocked to him at call, interpreted to them the beauty of their life, and drew solace from their pipings and the beatings of their wings.

beauty of their life, and drew solace from their plpings and the beatings of their wings.

One da , crossing the Venetian lagoons with one of his brethren, he passed by a bush vocal with song. He said to his companion: "Lo, the birds our brothers sing praise to their Creator; let us therefore draw near, and blend our praise with theirs, singing hely office of the Church."

Church."

And thus indeed he did, chaunting in antiphon with the birds, from time to time beseeching them to hold silence while he should uplift his strain. And he discoursed to them, and blessed them, and bade them go loyously and glorify God in the pure regions of the air. And himself was happy. "I perceive its Heaven's will we remain here for a space, since our brethren the birds seem to find so great comfort in beholding us."

After forty nights of sleenlessness St. Francis.

brethren the birds seem to find so great comfort in beholding us."

After forty nights of sleeplessness St. Francis fell into a trance, and, bidding one of his brethren take a pen, burst forth into a marvellous canticle to the Sun, a hymn of human joy closing with an eulogy of Death; for to him Death itself, serene, radiant, becomes Life' Exquisite song of tricoph, the fubliate of this poor tattered wight, this pilgrim of love; "Blessed be God my Lord for all His creatures, and blessed above all for our Lord and brother the Sun, giver of the day's light. Beautiful is he, and he gloweth with wondrous splendour, ever hearing witness of Thee, O my God! Blessed be Thou, O Lord, for the Moon our sister, and the Stars! Praise to Thee for my brother the Wind, for the Air and the Clouds."

And thus he continues the litany of universal And thus he continues the litany of universal

The book is full of suggestiveness and of a certain elevation of thought that is wholesome and uplifting. Its value is not in its consecutive development of a single train of thought, but in illuminating discussion, discursive though it

THE THEATRE.

AN OUTLINE OF DRAMATICS HISTORY.

HE THEATRE: ITS DEVELOPMENT IN FRANCE AND ENGLAND, AND A HISTORY OF ITS GREEK AND LATIN ORIGINS. By Charles Hastings, Authorized Translation by Frances A. Welby, Octavo, pp. xvi. 288. J. H. Lippincott Company.

Mr. Hastings may fairly claim to have realized his purpose of presenting in this book a useful and practical textbook, if not exactly an original one. It is not a book of suggestive criticism, and Mr. Hastings is much more suc cessful in presenting the facts of dramatic hisa summary of the dramatic art of Greece and curacy of whose work is considered by Captain | Rome, the characteristics of the theatre and works of the great of the miracle plays and mysteries of the Middle Ages in France and England, and the later de velopment in both those countries down to the present time. A large part of the work, especially of the earlier portion, is perfunctory and obviously the product of mere compilation.

The treatment of the medieval manifestations of religious drama is more to the point; the theme is handled in a larger way, apparently from the results of the author's own researches The extraordinary vitality of the miracle plays in England, which were given there as late as the reign of Elizabeth, arose from the fact that their direct aim was the diffusion of religious knowledge. Even to the middle of the seven teenth century, we are told, there were Catholics whose religious instruction was limited to of servation of the facts of Scripture as presented in the miracle plays. Furthermore, they prepared the way for the development of a national dramatic literature by spreading a love of the drama in almost every county in England. On the other hand, the influence of the mystery

plays on the destinies of the French theatre was nil. There was nothing in common between the sacred drama and the classical tragedy, and the passage from one to the other took place without transition

Coming down to modern times, the author allows himself space for only the barest outline of the dramatic progress of England and France, and an enumeration of their dramatic writers and actors. It is interesting to note his references to the great players of the middle of the nineteenth century in this country:

To the Americans belongs the great merit of having preserved the vitality of the Shake-spearian drama, when, to all appearance, be-tween 1850 and 1875, it was erased from the polite stages of the capital.

Charlotte Cushman, Buchanan, James Murdoch, J. B. Roberts, Edwin Booth and the young Batemans are those to whom he gives chief credit. An inadequate notice, inadequate even considering the general scheme of the book, is given to the romantic movement of 1830 and the triumph of the romantic drama of Dumas, De Vigny and Hugo; and to the reaction of 1843 and the ephemeral success of the "école du bon sens." For those who wish names and dates and outlines, Mr. Hastings's book will be valuable, but it is far from an illuminating or instructive criticism.

THE LATE MRS. GEORGE MACDONALD.

REMINISCENCES OF THE POET-NOVELIST'S HOME From M. A. P.

Choice spirits enlivened that modest house choice spirits enlivened that modest house fronting the old coach road from Hastings to London. I well remember (writes Miss Betham-Edwards) calling one afternoon about 2 o'clock for two of the younger girls I was taking to friends in the country. The early dinner was not yet half through. It consisted of an enormous round of cold boiled beef and baked positions. But where amit Park Lane mansions. mous round of cold boiled beef and baked po-tatoes. But where amid Park Lane mansions would you find a truer feast or more gental company? Beside the poet sat Miss Octavia Hill, interrupted by my appearance in the midst of one of her interesting and humorous narra-tives. After the usual "How d'ye do?" I sat down to await my young charges, and George Macdonald, turning to his guest, sald, "Now, my dear little girl, go on with your story!"

my dear little girl, go on with your story!"

Mrs. Macdonaid was that born genius for society, a good listener. She wanted to hear others, not to be listened to, and it was a charming trait of hers ever to put the newcomer next her busband at table. She knew how much this privilege was valued, for George Macdonaid's girls like had the uncommon quality of eleva-

monplace.

Poor Mrs. Macdonald! One by one this fondest of fond mothers saw four of her darlings
laid in the grave. The first to go was Mary, the
second daughter, a charming girl of twenty,
who, when she fell ill, was engaged to be happily married. The next was Maurice, a most
typing little lad godgen of the Rey E. D. pay married. The next was Maurice, a most promising little lad, godson of the Rev. F. D. Maurice, who died soon after the final move to Bordighera. He was buried on the seashore, his brothers diggling his grave. A year or two later Gracie, the third daughter, then a young wife and mother, followed these two. And many years afterward Lily, or Lilian, the eldest daughter and first born, also fell a victim to consumption. Lilian Scott Macdonald was endowed with great beauty of character and a remarkable talent for acting

NOTES FROM LONDON.

LATEST NEWS OF THE ACTIVITIES OF ENGLISH PUBLISHERS.

(Copyright, 1902; By The Tribune Association) [Special to The Pribune by French Cable.]

London, March 28.-The Duchess of Sutherland's novel, "Wind on the Trees," is exciting much talk among society people in advance of publication, and since it has considerable merit it is likely to have something more than a sucess of curiosity. It is not likely to rival "Eliza beth and Her German Garden" and other books of the Countess von Arnim, which are eagerly read by women of fashion. The duchess has an

animated style and a pretty fancy.

A woman's story of a different order will be ventures among the Balkan brigands, which will be published here by Isbister after appearing in serial form. The bulk of the new contributors to fiction are women, and the presses are groaning under their industry. A forthcoming novel on South Africa, entitled "A Story of Eden," was begun by Dolf Wyllards at Wynberg before the high veldt was pierced by the blockhouse lines, and was finished at sea during a long voyage. Women are now travelling far and wide for plots and local color fo stories.

Among the autumn projects is a book by Marconi containing the enlargement of his scientific addresses and papers on wireless telegraphy As his mother was an Englishwoman, he speaks and writes English as fluently as Italian. Richard Garnett and Edmund Gosse have their illustrated history of English literature well in hand, and the first volume will be issued by Heine mann here and Macmillan in America during the autumn. It will be an attempt to popularize by attractive style and the profuse use of illustrations a subject which is ordinarily treated in a dull way.

Heinemann's lists will include three books on Russia-Henry Norman's, Fitzmaurice Kelly's and Wirt Gerrare's; Prince Kropotkin's "Mutual Aid," involving a new application of the theory of evolution on lines not worked out by Darwin and Joseph Partsch's "Central Europe," in a series descriptive of the physical environment of the nations

The death of Cecil Rhodes renders Iwan Muler's "Lord Milner and South Africa" a timely olume, and Heinemann will bring it out at the earliest possible day. A large portion of the book is taken up with Rhodes's work for the empire and his relations with the two rival races. The author visited Rhodes at Groot Schuur, and as Lord Milner's intimate friend he had every facility for a deliberate study of the folossus. Longmans will not hold on until au-Englishman who knows the Fatherland intinately and admires the Emperor as a brilliant

getic sovereign, nor will Hutchinson delay the publication of a new and interesting book

The April reviews are dull, with the Japan Treaty, the Brussels Sugar Convention, Anglophobia in Germany and Stephen Phillips's revival of poetic dreams as the prominent themes. Frederic Harrison attacks with vehemence Beniamin Kidd's "Principles of Western Civilization," fathoming in it the depth of imbecility of what nowadays is called the philosophy of

BOOKS OF THE WEEK.

BIOGRAPHY.

THE VICAR OF MORWENSTOW. A Life of Robert Stephen Hawker, M. A. 12mo, pp. 312. (Thomas

THE RROTHERS DALZIEL, Sec. pp. xiii, 359. (E. P. An autoble graphy covering a period of fifty years' activity in wood engraving, 1849-20. Hipstrated with pictures by and autograph letters from many of the most distinguished artists of that period.

LICENDEN VON GOTTFRIED KELLER. Edited, with Notes and Vocabulary, by Margarete Muller and Carla Wenckehach. 16mo, pp. xii, 145. (Henry Holt & Co.) German text for students use.

FICTION.

BLOOD WILL TELL. By Benjamin Rush Davenport, 12me. pp. 340. (Cleveland: Caxton Book Company.) DOROTHY SOUTH. By George Cary Eggleston. 12mo, pp. 453. (Boston: Lethrop Publishing Company.)

A Virginian love story.

YOUNG HOWSON'S WIFE. By A. E. Watrous. 12mo, pp. 309. (Quall & Warner.)

A MILLIONAIRE'S LOVE STORY. By Guy Boothby. 12mo, pp. 258. (F. M. Buckles & Co.)

ENOCH STRONE. By E. Phillips Oppenheim. 12mo, pp. 258. (G. W. Dillingham Company.)

The slocy of an engineer and inventor; his career in politics and his love.

AN ISLAND CABIN. By Arthur Henry. 12mo. pp. 285.
(McClure, Phillips & Co.) ntures of three city-tired people on an island

THE MAKING OF A STATESMAN. By Joel Chandler Harris. 12ma, pp. 246. (McClure, Phillips & Co.) Four short stories, the first of which gives the volume

PARABLES OF LIFE. By Hamilton Wright Mable. Svo. pp. 163. (The Outlook Company.)

THE MOORS. By Budgett Meakin. 12mo, pp. xxii, 503. (The Macmillan Company.)

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-The Daily Mail, London,

The MACMILLAN COMPANY, New York

TENNIAL Edited by Ernest Martin Hopkins, Svepp. 288. (Hanover, N. H.; The Dartmouth Press.) Souvenir of the commem-ration by Dartmouth College of the services of Daniel Websier to the college and Slate, held upon the occasion of the one hundredth anniversary of the graduation of Websier.

E TROW COPARINERSHIP AND CORPORATION DIRECTORY OF THE BOROLGHS OF MANHAT TAN AND THE BIGON. 839, pp. 580. (Trow Director), Printing and Bookshirling Company.)

PHILOSOPHY.

POETRY.

THE HOURS OF THE PASSION, AND OTHER POEMS By Harriet Eleanor Hamilton King 12mm, pp. 131. (E. P. Dutton & Co.)

THE LIFE OF JOHN RUSKIN. By W. G. Collingwood 12mc, pp. 427. (Houghton, Millin & Co.)

THEOLOGY.

HOW TO GET ACQUAINTED WITH GOD By F. Seward, 16mo, pp. 147. (Funk & Wagnalis Company.)

r CHRISTIANITY AND PAGANISM. By H. and M. Spence, D. D. Svo, pp. av. 500. (E. P.

THE NEARER EAST. By D. G. Hegarth. 12mo. pp. xv. 298. (D. Appleton & Co.) Presenting the causative influences of geographical con-ditions in certain regions upon man.

CRISPES IMPORTANT PAPERS.

QUARRELS BETWEEN HIS DAUGHTER AND HIS

EXECUTOR. From The London Morning Post,

From The London Morning Post.

The strong personality of Signor Crispi, which caused so many controversies during his lifetime, continues even after his death to be the cause of discussions and polemics. Even before his death the question of the historical documents which the old statesman was known to possess received the consideration of the government, and, in order to avoid the "disappearance" of any of them, seals were placed on eleven rooms of the Villa Crispi as soon as he had expire!

had expired. had expired.

By the will Senator Damiani was appointed literary executor, and the government tactfully arranged to avoid any controversy by giving to Senator Damiani an official mission to examine

ilterary executor, and the government tactfully arranged to avoid any controversy by giving to Senator Damiani an official mission to examine and to control the publication of Crispi's papers. Senator Damiani was for a long period Crispi's most trusted friend, and those who desired that the old statesman's memoirs should not be mutilated to suit surviving politicians were reassared by his appointment as literary executor. Signor Crispi's only daughter, the Princess of Linguaglossa, however, reemed to fear that Senator Damiani might be too amenable to government pressure, and might not care to publish the whole of the documents which constitute the justification of Crispi, and which reveal the maneuvres of the men by whom he was principally attacked. She consequently raised formal objection again Senator Damiani's claim to have exclusive control of her father's papers, and when, on January 9, the seals were about to be removed her protest compelled Senator Damiani to lay the question before the courts. Senator Damiani has explained to an interviewer the reasons why he cannot permit any other person to be present during his examination of Crispi's papers. In the first place, there is a library of 34,000 volumes, and the creditors—for Crispi, who was accused by his enemies of having robbed the State right and left, lived very simply and died in debt—might wish to lay hands on the books. The examination will require several months, and the Princess of Linguaglossa would probably wish to appoint a representative, instead of being present in person during the whole operation. If one representative is appointed other interested parties will attempt to appoint their representatives, so that discretion and secrecy would become impossible. Senator Damiani says that there are in Crispi's archives letters from Bismarck, Lord Salisbury, Mr. Gladstone Count von Caprivi, and others, besides numbers of rough copies of important documents. These things cannot be allowed to pass through several hande, nor can he, as an intimate

CATTANEO'S DOCUMENTS.

From M. A. P.

The late wife of that true poet, George Macdonald, was in her way a remarkable woman. She lived first for her husband and children, but next for conversation—conversation, that is to say, in the proper sense of the word, Not the expense of maternity—and eleven children were born to her—not the anxieties of what was once a precarious income, neither narrow accommodation, nor any other drawback of whatever, prevented her from the exercise of whatever, prevented her from the exercise of whatever, prevented her from the exercise of wholesale hospitality; she must always of the head of the more have kindred spirits round her, and the more the better. Thirty years ago Mr. and Mrs. Macdonald, with their growing young family—alas isnee diminished by four—occupied a very small house at Hastings, not far from the handsome old mansion later on tenanted by Coventry Patmore.

The mistress of that numerous household seemed to wield a fairy wand. "Week end" visses of charming and eminent people from London, authors, artists, and others, all good causeurs, were made no more ado of than if the research of the middle of the middle of the incidents of the controversy which is raging over Crispl's papers concerns the documents and service that the country of the friend of Mazzini. It seems that Crisp bought these papers from Cattaneo, the friend of Mazzini. It seems that Crisp bought these papers from Cattaneo in order to prevent the friend of Mazzini. It seems that Crisp bought these papers from Cattaneo in the friend of Mazzini. It seems that Crisp bought these papers from Cattaneo in the friend of Mazzini. It seems that Crisp bought these papers from Cattaneo in the friend of Mazzini. It seems that Crisp bought these papers from Cattaneo in the friend of Mazzini. It seems that Crisp bought these papers from Cattaneo in the friend of Mazzini. It seems that Crisp bought from Cattaneo in the friend of Mazzini. It seems that Crisp and the friend of Mazzini. One of the incidents of the controversy which

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MARK TWAIN

Does the Race of Man Love a Lord.

The April North American Review Published To-Day